



A safer, more efficient left turn signal

Safer

A national study demonstrated that drivers had fewer crashes with the flashing yellow left-turn arrow than with the traditional yield-on-green indications.

Less delay

There are more opportunities to make a left turn with the flashing yellow left-turn arrow than with the traditional three-arrow, red, yellow, and green indications.

More flexible

The new display provides traffic engineers with more options to handle variable traffic volumes.

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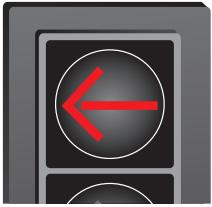


Flashing Yellow Arrow

Making Minnesota's traffic signals safer and more efficient.



The meaning of a left turn arrow



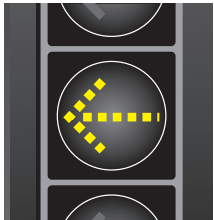
Solid red arrow:

Drivers intending to turn left must stop and wait. Do not enter an intersection to turn when a solid red arrow is being displayed.



Solid yellow arrow:

The left turn signal is about to change to red, and drivers should prepare to stop, or prepare to complete a left turn if they are legally within the intersection and there is no conflicting traffic present.



Flashing yellow arrow:

Drivers are allowed to turn left after yielding to all oncoming traffic and to any pedestrians in the crosswalk. Oncoming traffic has a green light. Drivers must wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before turning.



Solid green arrow:

Left turns have the right of way. Oncoming traffic has a red light.

What does flashing yellow arrow mean?

A flashing yellow arrow signal has the same meaning it always has: left turns may proceed with caution after yielding to oncoming traffic.

In the past, flashing yellow arrows in Minnesota only were used when the entire traffic signal was in flash mode. Use of the flashing yellow arrow has been shown to have several benefits, including minimizing delays and enhancing safety by reducing driver errors, and has now been approved for widespread use.

When will the flashing yellow arrow be used?

The majority of newly installed Mn/DOT traffic signals will have the flashing yellow arrow option. The flashing yellow arrow will operate when certain traffic conditions exist, such as low volumes and low speed.



A better left turn signal

Flashing yellow arrow signal has been shown to have less probability for driver mistakes. It keeps traffic flow safe during heavy traffic while reducing delay when traffic is light.